

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): In a system comprising a network and one or more mobile stations (MSs) for enabling communications with the one or more MSs and for rescuing at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, a method for ~~limiting rescue attempts of~~rescuing the potentially failing connection, comprising:

- identifying the potentially failing connection;
- ~~determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection;~~
- allowing ~~an attempted rescue of a~~ rescue attempt for the potentially failing connection ~~if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations~~a specified time period has elapsed since the last successful rescue of the connection; and
- ~~preventing the attempted rescue of~~the rescue attempt for the potentially failing connection ~~if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations~~the specified time period has not elapsed since the last successful rescue of the connection.

Claims 2-27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): In a system comprising a network and one or more mobile stations (MSs) for enabling communications with the one or more ~~MSs~~MSs and for rescuing at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, ~~and for limiting rescue attempts of the potentially failing connection~~, a method for ~~assisting in the limiting of rescue attempts of~~rescuing the potentially failing connection, comprising:

at the MS having the potentially failing connection,
identifying the potentially failing connection, and
~~determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection~~,
allowing ~~an attempted rescue of a~~ rescue attempt for the potentially failing connection if ~~rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations~~a specified time period has elapsed since last successful rescue of the connection; and
~~preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.~~

Claims 29-49 (canceled)

Claim 50 (withdrawn): A communications system for enabling communications with one or more mobile stations (MSs) and for limiting rescue attempts of MSs having potentially failing connections, comprising:

one or more MSs, each MS having a MS processor; and
a network communicatively coupled to the one or more MSs;
wherein the MS processor of the at least one MS having the connection with the network is programmed for detecting when the connection becomes a potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 51 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 50:

the network having a network processor programmed for determining preexisting rescue limitations for at least one MS having a connection with the network and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the at least one MS having the connection in a rescue order; and

the MS processor of the at least one MS having the connection with the network further programmed for receiving the preexisting rescue limitations from the network and determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with the preexisting rescue limitations.

Claim 52 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 51, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by considering the preexisting rescue limitations or rescue parameters determined at a time of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 53 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 50, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by preventing a rescue attempt of the potentially failing connection if the connection had been previously characterized as a poor connection.

Claim 54 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 50, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 55 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 51, the rescue order comprising a specific rescue order, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is dictated to the MS having the potentially failing connection by the specific rescue order.

Claim 56 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 51, the rescue order comprising a rescue control order containing control information, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is determined by the MS having the potentially failing connection in accordance with the control information contained in the rescue order.

Claim 57 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 56, the control information including information specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 58 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 50, wherein the MS processor of the at least one MS having the connection with the network is further programmed for determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with commands input to the MS by a user.

Claim 59 (withdrawn): A communications network for assisting in limiting rescue attempts of at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, the at least one MS capable of limiting the rescue attempts in accordance with a rescue order, the communications network comprising:

a network processor programmed for determining preexisting rescue limitations for the connection, and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the MS having the connection in a rescue order.

Claim 60 (withdrawn): A mobile station (MS) for limiting rescue attempts of the MS when the MS has a connection with a network that has become a potentially failing connection, comprising:

a MS processor programmed for detecting when the connection becomes the potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 61 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 60, the network capable of communicating preexisting rescue limitations in a rescue order to the MS to assist in limiting the rescue attempts of the MS:

wherein the MS processor is further programmed for receiving the preexisting rescue limitations from the network in the rescue order and determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with the preexisting rescue limitations.

Claim 62 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 61, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by considering the preexisting rescue limitations or rescue parameters determined at a time of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 63 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 60, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by preventing a rescue attempt of the potentially failing connection if the connection had been previously characterized as a poor connection.

Claim 64 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 60, the MS processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 65 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 61, the rescue order comprising a specific rescue order, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is dictated to the MS having the potentially failing connection by the specific rescue order.

Claim 66 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 61, the rescue order comprising a rescue control order containing control information, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is determined by the MS having the potentially failing connection in accordance with the control information contained in the rescue order.

Claim 67 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 66, the control information including information specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 68 (withdrawn): The MS as recited in claim 60, wherein the MS processor is further programmed for determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with commands input to the MS by a user.

Claim 69 (withdrawn): A communications system for enabling communications with one or more mobile stations (MSs) and for limiting rescue attempts of MSs having potentially failing connections, comprising:

- a network having a network processor; and

- at least one MS having a connection with the network;

wherein the network processor is programmed for detecting when a connection becomes a potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 70 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 69:

- each MS having a MS processor programmed for determining preexisting rescue limitations for the connection and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the network in a rescue order; and

- the network processor further programmed for receiving the preexisting rescue limitations from the at least one MS having a connection with the network and determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with the preexisting rescue limitations.

Claim 71 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 70, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by considering the preexisting rescue limitations or rescue parameters determined at a time of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 72 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 69, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by preventing a rescue attempt of the potentially failing connection if the connection had been previously characterized as a poor connection.

Claim 73 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 69, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 74 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 70, the rescue order comprising a specific rescue order, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is dictated to the MS having the potentially failing connection by the specific rescue order.

Claim 75 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 70, the rescue order comprising a rescue control order containing control information, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is determined by the MS having the potentially failing connection in accordance with the control information contained in the rescue order.

Claim 76 (withdrawn): The system as recited in claim 75, the control information including information specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 77 (withdrawn): A mobile station (MS) for assisting in limiting rescue attempts of the MS when the MS has a connection with a network that has become a potentially failing connection, the network capable of receiving preexisting rescue limitations in a rescue order to limit the rescue attempts of the MS, the MS comprising:

a MS processor programmed for determining preexisting rescue limitations for the connection, and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the network in a rescue order.

Claim 78 (withdrawn): A communications network for limiting rescue attempts of at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, the communications network comprising:

a network processor programmed for detecting when the connection becomes the potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 79 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 78, the at least one MS capable of determining and communicating preexisting rescue limitations for the connection in a rescue order to assist in limiting the rescue attempts:

wherein the network processor is further programmed for receiving the predetermined rescue limitations from the at least one MS in the rescue order and determining the current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection in accordance with the preexisting rescue limitations.

Claim 80 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 79, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by considering the preexisting rescue limitations or rescue parameters determined at a time of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 81 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 78, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations by preventing a rescue attempt of the potentially failing connection if the connection had been previously characterized as a poor connection.

Claim 82 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 78, the network processor further programmed for determining current rescue limitations specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 83 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 79, the rescue order comprising a specific rescue order, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is dictated to the network by the specific rescue order.

Claim 84 (withdrawn): The communications network as recited in claim 79, the rescue order comprising a rescue control order containing control information, and wherein the allowing or preventing of the attempted rescue is determined by the network in accordance with the control information contained in the rescue order.

Claim 85 (withdrawn): The network as recited in claim 84, the control information including information specific to a type, cause, or context of the potentially failing connection.

Claim 86 (withdrawn): A communications system for enabling communications with one or more mobile stations (MSs) and for limiting rescue attempts of MSs having potentially failing connections, comprising:

one or more MSs; and

network means communicatively coupled to the one or more MSs, at least one MS having a connection with the network means;

the at least one MS having the connection with the network means for detecting when the connection becomes a potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 87 (withdrawn): A communications network for assisting in limiting rescue attempts of at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, the at least one MS capable of limiting the rescue attempts in accordance with a rescue order, the communications network comprising:

network means for determining preexisting rescue limitations for the connection, and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the MS having the connection in a rescue order.

Claim 88 (withdrawn): A mobile station (MS) for limiting rescue attempts of the MS when the MS has a connection with a network that has become a potentially failing connection, the MS comprising:

means for detecting when the connection becomes the potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 89 (withdrawn): A communications system for enabling communications with one or more mobile stations (MSs) and for limiting rescue attempts of MSs having potentially failing connections, comprising:

a network means; and

at least one MS having a connection with the network;

the network means for detecting when a connection becomes a potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 90 (withdrawn): A mobile station (MS) for assisting in limiting rescue attempts of the MS when the MS has a connection with a network that has become a potentially failing connection, the network capable of receiving preexisting rescue limitations in a rescue order to limit the rescue attempts of the MS, the MS comprising:

means for determining preexisting rescue limitations for the connection, and communicating the preexisting rescue limitations to the network in a rescue order.

Claim 91 (withdrawn): A communications network for limiting rescue attempts of at least one MS having a connection with the network that has become a potentially failing connection, the communications network comprising:

means for detecting when the connection becomes the potentially failing connection, determining current rescue limitations for the potentially failing connection, allowing an attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is permitted based on the current rescue limitations, and preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection if rescue is prohibited based on the current rescue limitations.

Claim 92 (new): A method for rescuing a connection between a network and a mobile station, wherein the mobile station has a potentially failing connection, the method comprising:

identifying the potentially failing connection; and

allowing a rescue attempt for the potentially failing connection if a specified time period has elapsed since a last successful rescue of the connection.

Claim 93 (new): The method according to claim 92, further comprising receiving the specified time period from the network at the mobile station.

Claim 94 (new): The method according to claim 92, further comprising determining the specified time period at the network.

Claim 95 (new): The method according to claim 92, further comprising:

preventing the attempted rescue of the potentially failing connection so long as the specified time period has not elapsed since the last success rescue of the connection.

Claim 96 (new): The method according to claim 92, further comprising:

transmitting the specified time period to the mobile station at the network.

Claim 97 (new): A method for rescuing a connection between a network and a mobile station, wherein the mobile station has a potentially failing connection, the method comprising:

- identifying the potentially failing connection;
- allowing a first rescue attempt after identifying the potentially failing connection;
- rescuing the potentially failing connection so that the connection is maintained; and
- allowing a second consecutive rescue attempt of the potentially failing connection if a specified time has elapsed since a last successful rescue of the connection.